

## THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A method for secure access and communication of information in a distributed media network, the method comprising:

detecting, at a first geographic location, when a legacy media peripheral is connected to one or both of a PC and a media processing system at said first geographic location within the distributed media network;

associating at least one identifier with said legacy media peripheral, wherein said at least one identifier is used to validate said legacy media peripheral for use at said first geographic location; and

utilizing said at least one identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising requesting said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier and at least one identifier of a user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier is a serial number of said legacy media peripheral.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein said at least one user identifier is ~~at least one~~ or both of a user password and/or a user name.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, comprising determining said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral and said user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 5, comprising associating said legacy media peripheral identifier and said user identifier with said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein if said legacy media peripheral is previously registered at said first geographic location within said network, acquiring said at least one user identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 7, comprising validating said acquired at least one user identifier for said legacy media peripheral prior to said facilitation of communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, comprising registering said legacy media peripheral for operation at a second geographic location subsequent to said validation of said acquired at least one user identifier.

10. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, comprising executing a media peripheral association software on said ~~at least one~~ or both of said PC and or said media processing system.

11. (Previously presented) A machine-readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having at least one code section for secure access and communication of information in a distributed media network, the at least one code section being executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform steps comprising:

detecting, at a first geographic location, when a legacy media peripheral is connected to one or both of a PC and a media processing system at said first geographic location within the distributed media network;

associating at least one identifier with said legacy media peripheral, wherein said at least one identifier is used to validate said legacy media peripheral for use at said first geographic location; and

utilizing said at least one identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

12. (Currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, ~~comprising~~ wherein said at least one code section comprises code for requesting said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier and at least one identifier of a user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

13. (Original) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, wherein said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier is a serial number of said legacy media peripheral.

14. (Currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, wherein said at least one user identifier is ~~at least one~~ or both of a user password and/or a user name.

15. (Currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, ~~comprising~~ wherein said at least one code section comprises code for determining said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral and said user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

16. (Currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 15, ~~comprising~~ wherein said at least one code section comprises code for associating said legacy media peripheral identifier and said user identifier with said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral.

17. (Currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, ~~comprising~~ wherein said at least one code section comprises code for acquiring said at least one user identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said

legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network, if said legacy media peripheral is previously registered at said first geographic location within said network.

18. (Currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 17, ~~comprising~~ wherein said at least one code section comprises code for validating said acquired at least one user identifier for said legacy media peripheral prior to said facilitation of communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

19. (Currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 18, ~~comprising~~ wherein said at least one code section comprises code for registering said legacy media peripheral for operation at a second geographic location subsequent to said validation of said acquired at least one user identifier.

20. (Currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, ~~comprising~~ wherein said at least one code section comprises code for executing a media peripheral association software on said at least one of said PC and said media processing system.

21. (Currently amended) A system for secure access and communication of information in a distributed media network, the system comprising:

at least one processor operable to detect ~~that detects~~, at a first geographic location, when a legacy media peripheral is connected to one or both of a PC and a media processing system at said first geographic location within the distributed media network;

said at least one processor is operable to associate ~~associates~~ at least one identifier with said legacy media peripheral, wherein said at least one identifier is used to validate said legacy media peripheral for use at said first geographic location; and

said at least one processor is operable to utilize ~~utilizes~~ said at least one identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

22. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor is operable to request ~~requests~~ said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier and at least one identifier of a user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

23. (Original) The system according to claim 22, wherein said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier is a serial number of said legacy media peripheral.

24. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 22, wherein said at least one user identifier is ~~at least one~~ or both of a user password and or a user name.

25. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 22, wherein said at least one processor is operable to determine ~~determines~~ said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral and said user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

26. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 25, wherein said at least one processor is operable to associate ~~associates~~ said legacy media peripheral identifier and said user identifier with said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral.

27. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 22, wherein said at least one processor is operable to acquire ~~acquires~~ said at least one user identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network, if said legacy media peripheral is previously registered at said first geographic location within said network.

28. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 27, wherein said at least one processor is operable to validate ~~validates~~ said acquired at least one user identifier for said legacy media peripheral prior to said facilitation of communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

29. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 28, wherein said at least one processor is operable to register ~~registers~~ said legacy media peripheral for operation at a second geographic location subsequent to said validation of said acquired at least one user identifier.

30. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor is operable to execute ~~executes~~ a media peripheral association software on said ~~at least one~~ or both of said PC and/or said media processing system.

31. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor is ~~at least one~~ or more of a computer processor, a media peripheral processor, a media exchange system processor and/or a media processing system processor.